

Arsht Research on Ethics and Community Grant

Evidence-Based Medicine and Patient-Centered Ethics: An Integrated Approach to the Philosophy of Medicine

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Abstract

Two broad social movements in health care inform contemporary analysis of the ethical issues that emerge when conducting biomedical research involving human subjects: the Evidence-Based Medicine (EBM) movement and the patient-centered ethics movement in bioethics. These approaches provide distinct, and sometimes apparently competing standpoints that influence recommendations on health care teaching, research and delivery. This work provides a novel analysis of the relationship between the theoretical developments in bioethics and EBM which is a necessary condition on an adequate articulation of a consistent model of health care. We develop a framework that integrates these two perspectives, while making room for the emergence and resolution of ethical dilemmas in clinical research.

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